Holden Village Trip!

Here is the group that went from Christ Church Lutheran to Holden Village, a Lutheran retreat community in the Cascade Mountains of Washington State, for the week of June 30 – July 7. Pictured left to right, front to back are: Siri, Carmina, Rachel, Matias, Pastor Carlson; Morrie, John, Ina, Kevin, Darrick, Simo, Yi-ru, Harold; Ken, Rita, Chris, Darwin, Jeri, Jonathan, Dick, Pastor Haaland.

The Lady of the Lake took the Holden group on a 3-hour boat ride up Lake Chelan to Lucerne, where the dock is for Holden Village. Here is Carmina, ready to board the bus for Holden—a 13-mile ride in a school bus, with many steep switchbacks, back into the mountains and up to the Village.

Here is Matias, with his mother Yi-ru, on the Holden bus. He tie-dyed the t-shirt he’s wearing—one of the many fun things the Holden group got to do in the Village. More stories and photos will follow in next month’s Courier!

A Warm Welcome to our New Temporary Part-time Office Secretary

She has been hired as a temporary, part-time office secretary to help manage our immediate reception and office needs this summer until the full-time office administrator position is filled. She will be in the office to assist our pastors and cantors, and to receive calls and welcome visitors. Her schedule for the month of August—and the church office schedule—will be: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. (Note that the church office will closed on Mondays and Fridays during August.) We look forward to her help during this time of transition, while we search for a full-time office administrator. Welcome!

Midtown Farmers Market — Saturday August 4th

Christ Church Lutheran and the Friends of Christ Church are sponsoring a Day at the Midtown Farmer’s Market. This year our “Day” is Saturday, August 4. Plan to come, greet your neighbors, and enjoy a great morning at the market! The market is open from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and is located at the corner of Lake Street East and 22nd Ave South in Minneapolis.

Organ Recital

Mark your calendar for a very special day!

Sunday September 30th, 2018

4 p.m. – Martin Jean of Yale University will perform a dedicatory organ recital.
August Birthdays

8/2 Olaf Carlson-Wee
8/3 Greg Madson (G.T.)
    Ronald Johnson
8/5 Nathan Swanson
8/6 Alan Graebner
8/7 Matias Sarkanen
8/11 Bob Davis
8/12 Noah Buckley-Farlee
8/14 Peter Doll
8/15 Janice Radloff
    Joanne Seltz
    Karen Woestehoff
8/17 Henry Polsfuss
8/18 DeAn Lagerquist
8/21 Jeff Adams
8/22 Carmina Stensland
8/23 Dick Thompson
8/24 Freddie Weispfenning
8/27 Bob Swenson
8/29 Luann Skrivseth

Helping Hands for August

Pat Baechler
Dori Brandon
Lucille Buelow
Ann & Bob Davis
Max Herzberg
Cheryl & Harvey Leuning
Phyllis Mattill
April McMillian & Lynn Tollefson
Beverl Meakins & George Greenfield
Bethany Mueller & Stamatis Zeris
Victoria & Nate Perbix
Kim & Chip Young
Matthew and Pamela Krueger

All church members are part of Helping Hands. You may be asked to help with Sunday Coffee and hospitality related events as needed. Mary Bode is the coordinator; Call the church office to connect with her.

Book Discussion – Sponsored by the Racial Justice Task Force

Saturday, September 15 – 10:00 a.m. in the Luther Lounge

The Christ Church book discussion group has selected its next book: *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles. Google Books offers this description: “In 1922, Count Alexander Rostov is deemed an unrepentant aristocrat by a Bolshevik tribunal, and is sentenced to house arrest in the Metropol, a grand hotel across the street from the Kremlin. Rostov, an indomitable man of erudition and wit, has never worked a day in his life, and must now live in an attic room while some of the most tumultuous decades in Russian history are unfolding outside the hotel’s doors. Unexpectedly, his reduced circumstances provide him entry into a much larger world of emotional discovery.”

All are welcome to join us for good conversation!
From the Church Council

Update for August

The Council did not meet in July, but here is a brief update on a few ongoing priorities. The Project Management Task Force (PMTF) led negotiations for a contract to roof the sanctuary, and the Council approved the recommended contract with Jackson and Associates for $189,212—plus any additional costs associated with required repairs after the old roof is removed. As hoped, PMTF was able to negotiate a lower contract than at first bid. Council is grateful to PMTF for its diligence to reduce these costs. Work is scheduled to begin in late summer.

After the congregation’s approval to restructure administrative staff, the Executive Committee has finalized job descriptions and advertised the openings for the full-time Office Administrator and the part-time Children’s Ministry Director. The job postings are included in this issue. Please share these exciting opportunities with anyone who might be interested. Applications will be accepted until the positions are filled. Council will resume regular meetings in August, when we will look toward the church’s fall programming and planning for the 2019 budget.

Treasurer’s Report

Our finances are still looking good — member giving is still a little ahead of budget. Our adjusted income is about $6,600 more than expenses, which will help with some larger bills that are coming due. Offerings usually drop off during the summer—let’s try not to do that this year! Thank you for your financial support of our congregation.

Christ Church Lutheran Finances

<table>
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<th>ACTUAL</th>
<th>BUDGET (6 mos.)</th>
<th>DIFFERENCE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Member Giving/Envelopes</td>
<td>165,850.47</td>
<td>163,240.00</td>
<td>2,610.47</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>$38,041.78</td>
<td>$49,549.00</td>
<td>(11,507.22)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Income</td>
<td>203,892.25</td>
<td>212,789.00</td>
<td>(8,896.75)</td>
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<td>Total Expenses</td>
<td>$199,026.22</td>
<td>$200,049.00</td>
<td>(1,022.78)</td>
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<td>Adj: pre-giving &amp; transfers</td>
<td>1,760.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Surplus (or Deficit)</td>
<td>$6,626.03</td>
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Safe House — Your Second Century Contributions at Work...

Thanks to the generosity of our community, projects continue at Safe House, a Lutheran Social Service (LSS) Shelter for Homeless Youth in the Merriam Park neighborhood of Saint Paul. Last year Jonathan Stensland of Christ Church Lutheran and other congregation volunteers built a beautiful storage shed in the backyard (shown in photo.) This summer Safe House staff are contracting with a local builder to remodel their main bathroom (used by the 8 youth who stay there). Christ Church has committed $11,000 to fund this project—money that is part of our tithe of the Second Century Campaign Funds the congregation raised.

Our total tithe from the Second Century Campaign Funds is $50,000. It is being distributed among the three ministries we chose when we approved the campaign: BEACON Interfaith Housing Collaborative—to support the Great River Landing in the North Loop, a housing project for men coming out of incarceration; Always Being Made New, an initiative by our Evangelical Lutheran Church in America—our gift is being used to support young adults for ministry and leadership; and Safe House.

Watch for updates about all these projects in upcoming editions of the Courier!
Refugee Family Update

The refugee family currently being sponsored by Christ Church is part of the Karen (pronounced Kah-REN, with emphasis on second syllable) people. The Karen people comprise one of many ethnic groups in Burma or Myanmar (the country is known by both names). What most of the ethnic groups have in common is the experience of violence toward them by the Burmese military that controls the government. The violence against the Karen people has been so extensive, that many thousands have fled into Thailand where they live in refugee camps with the hope of resettlement in a place of safety. The two adults in the family we are sponsoring lived in a camp for 18 years before moving to the United States in cities such as St. Paul. The family that Christ Church is sponsoring has already established itself within the local Karen community.

The focus of the refugee team’s work is that of extending friendship and assisting the family in negotiating life within the metro area, so there is an emphasis on learning to use public transportation. Fortunately, the family lives close to an LRT stop. There is also an effort to introduce them to some of the great urban opportunities. One Saturday we went to Como Park for a picnic, time on the playground, and a visit to the zoo.

At this point communication is a struggle since we cannot speak a common language. We reach out for a single word or two and rejoice when there is evidence of understanding. Family members are involved in language study. As is almost always the case, the children are progressing in a particularly rapid manner. We sometimes depend on them for translation.

Adjusting to a new land and culture is not easy, but there is daily progress and we are honored to be part of it.

B.A.S.I.C. (Brothers and Sisters in Christ)

Come on Wednesday, August 29, 11:00 a.m. in the Concordia room for our August B.A.S.I.C. meeting. Lunch will be potluck. Bring cold food/a picnic dish to share. Check the Sunday bulletins for further information. Everyone is welcome! Invite a friend.
Young Architects Award
Angela Wolf Scott Receives National Award

Angela Wolf Scott has received a Young Architects Award for her work in historic preservation. She is a principal at MacDonald and Mack Architects and has guided the stewardship and preservation of some of Minnesota’s most significant buildings, including Christ Church Lutheran. *She is pictured with her husband Brad, and Ann and Bob Davis, at the 2018 National American Institute of Architects Convention held in New York City. They are pictured outside the new Whitney Museum of American Art, just before entering to celebrate her achievement.*

Past Christ Church Lutheran Cantor at American Guild of Organists

Walter Pelz, who served Christ Church Lutheran as music director 1962–69, visited the Augsburg Fortress booth at the American Guild of Organists national conference in Kansas City on July 5 to sign copies of his new music collection, *A Walter Pelz Organ Anthology*. Dr. Pelz went on from Christ Church to many years on the faculty at Bethany College in Lindsborg, Kansas, where he still lives with his wife Dolores. One of their three daughters, Sue, is also pictured in this photo; she was confirmed at Christ Church in the mid-60s.

Walter and Dolores recently celebrated their 68th wedding anniversary and are enjoying 24 great-grandchildren, with another on the way. Wally was delighted to see the commemorative booklet for the new Christ Church Organ and noted, “It’s about time.” They send their greetings to choir members and all who might remember them from the years they cherish in our midst.

Friends of Christ Church Lutheran

We are blessed by our partnership with the Friends of Christ Church Lutheran, a nonprofit 501c3, that works alongside the congregation to help promote our National Historic Landmark church, to educate people about it, and to raise funds for its preservation. Their Board meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month. On Right: *Friends Board members gathered for a meeting last month (left to right): Bob Davis, Birgitte Christianson, Paul Ormseth, Gordon Olschlager, and Pastor Carlson (not pictured: Rolf Anderson and Rachel Mann).*

Racial Justice Book Discussion: Just Mercy

By Rachel Slater

On June 16, the Racial Justice Task Force hosted a book group discussion on *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson. Many who have attended the congregation forums sponsored by the Racial Justice Task Force have heard Bryan Stevenson speak and call us to become proximate with the poor and oppressed. His book, *Just Mercy, A Story of Justice and Redemption*, tells how Stevenson did just that when he founded the Equal Justice Initiative, a legal practice dedicated to defending those on death row and those who are unjustly (if not illegally) condemned in our legal system. The book focuses on the case of Walter McMillian, who was sentenced to death for a crime he did not commit. Stevenson describes with passion and detail how individual and systemic indifference and racial injustice destroys peoples’ lives; yet, he also provides a model for us all in how maintaining hope and taking action can truly make a difference.

We were joined in our reflections by members of Minnehaha Communion Lutheran church. Our discussion focused on Stevenson’s call to action and how we can begin to respond. How do we take responsibility for the injustice we see around us, and manage the guilt and shame that we may experience as we begin to take notice? Recognizing that issues of racial justice are becoming more politicized, how do we listen to each other and maintain community and relationship with each other as we try to take action?

The Racial Justice Task Force has taken a break from meetings in the summer, and will resume regular meeting and discussion in September. Contact Rachel Slater at rslater63@gmail.com if you want to become more closely involved.
Job Openings for Two New Positions

At the June 24th Special Congregation Meeting, the congregation voted unanimously to approve the recommendations of the Council to restructure the administrative staff and hire a full-time office administrator and a part-time children’s ministry staff. The staffing task force is working to post these positions and fill them as soon as possible. Please share these position descriptions with anyone you know who might be interested and a good fit! Contact information is included in the postings that follow.

Office Administrator

Christ Church Lutheran in Minneapolis (www.christchurchluth.org) is seeking a full-time Office Administrator. This is a new and critical role working in partnership with our pastoral team and a vibrant, growing congregational community. In this staff position, you’ll be responsible for supporting a variety of office and administrative functions; creating and circulating church communications; coordinating volunteer involvement for our ministries, coordinating building use, and other activities. The Office Administrator is a full-time, eligible position, reporting to the Lead Pastor.

We are known for our welcome and hospitality, our worship and community outreach, and our building – a National Historic Landmark.

Minimum Qualifications:
• Associate’s degree or equivalent
• 2 years’ relevant experience in a church, non-profit, or related setting
• Demonstrated skills in designing/creating communications materials for a variety of audiences
• Proficiency with Microsoft Office Suite, web-based technologies and social media
• Experience, training, or aptitude for financial bookkeeping. Experience with or willingness to learn Quick Books
• Strong interpersonal and organizational skills
• Ability to work independently, while participating in a collaborative team environment

Interested candidates should send a resume and cover letter to Pastor Kristine Carlson at apply@christchurchluth.org. Position is open until filled.

Children’s Ministry Director

Christ Church Lutheran in Minneapolis (www.christchurchluth.org) is seeking a Children’s Ministry Director (10 hours per week, 9 months a year) to help imagine, organize, teach, lead, and grow our Children’s Ministry, in partnership with the Lead Pastor, Children’s Ministry Committee, and volunteers. Currently, we have about 40 children in our program ages 11 and under in a growing, vibrant congregational community. In this staff position you will be responsible for nurturing the spiritual formation for children and their families, coordinating Sunday school and other children’s programming, recruiting and coordinating volunteers, carrying out administrative and communications tasks, and other activities.

Minimum Qualifications:
• At least two years of college education; bachelor’s degree preferred.
• Prior experience as a paid or volunteer worker in children’s ministry.
• Ability to lead, coordinate, and work with others toward a common goal.
• Excellent teaching, communication, and organizational skills.
• Feel a calling to work with children, youth, and their families in a supportive, faith-based environment affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

Interested candidates should send a resume and cover letter to Pastor Kristine Carlson at apply@christchurchluth.org. Position is open until filled.
Jesus said, “Let the children come!”
At Christ Church Lutheran, we welcome children and their families to the font, to the table, and to worship.

Out and About This Summer — What Everyone’s Been Up To!

Nora poses outside a local BBQ joint in North Carolina with a friendly pig named “Honey Comb”.

Freddie cooling off from this hot summer at the “local” pool.

Tessa enjoys a summer picnic with some tasty dessert.

Isis and Prince ride the camel at the Minnesota Zoo.

Isis is part of the Metropolitan Dance Alliance and her team won a Bravo award for jazz and tap!

The Nooney kids enjoying time at the beach.

August Volunteer Schedule

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Quiet Space</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/5</td>
<td>Yi-ru Chen-Sarkanen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/12</td>
<td>Carmen O’Halloran</td>
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<td>8/19</td>
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<td>Carmen O’Halloran</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Monday</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5 Sunday</strong></td>
<td>9:30am Eucharist • Coffee fellowship</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>12 Sunday</strong></td>
<td>9:30am Eucharist • Coffee fellowship • 11:00 am building tour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Sunday</td>
<td>9:30am Eucharist • Coffee fellowship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>26 Sunday</strong></td>
<td>9:30am Eucharist • Coffee fellowship</td>
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